

Andrea Dykes

From: Vonya Planchon <Vonyalynn@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2021 10:52 AM
To: Council Internet Email
Subject: Housing First program

Dear City Council members,

My husband Don and I have resided with our four children in South Carlsbad for 22 years. We have been very happy with how Carlsbad has been managed and developed over time, but I wanted to express my concern for the proposed 'Housing First' program.

I have personally seen a big increase in vagrancy, crime and severely mentally ill in all areas of Carlsbad. It is concerning that the Council would consider this program for our city, because we do not have the proper infrastructure to support a program like this.

I believe that the majority of our residents would not want this. While the emphasis of the program is well intentioned, to provide shelter for struggling folks, we do not have proper screening, background checks, long term social work or mandatory drug testing, job training etc that would be absolutely imperative.

I have worked with homeless and mentally ill for over twenty years, and have worked in crisis centers, transitional housing programs and have a Masters degree in Counseling Psychology. Therefore, I know that this is a temporary fix we are proposing, and will be detrimental for the community. Moreover, it will not be helpful for folks who participate in the proposed housing program. Better choices to take this on would be cities such as Vista, Escondido and many areas of San Diego.

People who would qualify for such a program are not likely to be able to sustain a housing situation if they do not have a case manager, submit to drug and alcohol treatment, and acquire proper job training. Unfortunately, it will be a revolving door of getting into housing and not being able to sustain it.

I respectfully ask the Council to take this program off the table for our city. It is preferable that we focus on providing lower income housing to veterans, single parent families and young adults who live and work in Carlsbad who want to be able to keep contributing to our community.

Sincerely,

Vonya Planchon

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Andrea Dykes

From: Erin Dionisiou <loulouob@mac.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 11:08 PM
To: Council Internet Email
Subject: Housing First

Dear City Council Members,

I am a longtime, taxpaying resident of Carlsbad. My family has worked hard to live in this once safe, clean beachside community. Unfortunately, our dreams of remaining here have been shattered by the decline in safety due to the homeless that have been permitted, and dare I say lured here. We no longer wish to live amongst the squalor of feces, encampments and drug abuse in our once idyllic neighborhood. We are not alone. Our friends and neighbors no longer plan to fund the ambitions of amateur politicians looking for a bit of virtue signaling. Your tax dollars will dwindle if you continue to lure the homeless to our once safe community in the name of whatever the latest buzz-virtue may be. Put an end to this nonsense and represent those paying your salaries. No free housing in motels.

Thank you,

Erin O'Brien-Dionisiou

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Andrea Dykes

From: Lucy stepenaskie <lmstep@live.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 10:18 PM
To: Council Internet Email
Subject: Housing vouchers for homeless

I write you today to tell you that I support screening of those who receive hotel vouchers for housing from our city. I believe that we should screen for drug and alcohol abuse, mental illness and criminal activity. I live midway between the hotel strip along Avenida Encinas and the kMotel 6 on Batiquitos Drive. We see the number of calls for medical assistance and the number of dubious characters this brings to neighborhoods in SW Carlsbad. Property crime has skyrocketed here - car break ins, garage theft, vehicle theft, and a few home break ins. I am a 30+ resident of this area, so I am confident in my observation of the increase of these criminal activities. I do believe we should help those who need a hand, but to continue to provide shelter to those who prey upon your citizens and abuse drugs and alcohol should not be continued.

Lucy Lusk, 908 Alyssum Road, Carlsbad CA 92011

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Andrea Dykes

From: Ben Ehrlich <betradin@pacbell.net>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 7:44 PM
To: Council Internet Email
Subject: Housing First

I am totally against this plan. Why on earth would you not go with a plan that allows for screening of background, sobriety, and other factors. I love Carlsbad but this is very likely to add a lot of questionable souls to our ranks. Please think about this seriously before enacting such a foolish program.

Barbara Ehrlich

Sent from my iPad

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Andrea Dykes

From: Karen Von Euw <kvoneuw@att.net>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 6:31 PM
To: Council Internet Email
Subject: Housing First Program

Please do not implement the Housing First program that would put homeless people in hotels (without background screening) at taxpayer cost. This simply is not a sensible solution. Screening will help to identify the people that want and need assistance. I have attended several neighborhood and virtual meetings that have addressed the homeless problem in our community. The fact is that the majority of homeless people prefer that lifestyle and housing them will only enable them to continue. Let's screen homeless people, house the ones that truly want and need assistance to get back into a home and job, and address addiction and mental health problems for those who need that type of help. Admittedly, they are the most difficult to help and that is part of this dilemma. But paying to 'hide' the chronically homeless isn't going to make this problem go away. If anything it will exacerbate it.

Thank you for your time,

Karen Von Euw
7257 San Luis
Carlsbad

Sent from my iPhone

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Andrea Dykes

From: Sharyl Hess <sharylrae@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 6:25 PM
To: Council Internet Email
Subject: NO on the Housing First Model

Dear City of Carlsbad,

We, the people of Carlsbad, will not go for this Housing First agenda. We have groups of us that meet often and we will not stand for this in our city.

Other cities up and down the coast of Orange County and San Diego are together in this fight to protect not only us and our families BUT the homeless as well.

Your plans never seem to include the true CARE and PREVENTATIVE well being of the homeless people. These humans are mostly homeless because of extreme drug abuse.

HOUSING FIRST IS NOT THE "CURE".

Rehabilitation and the proper systems are. Our families and citizens will not be the scapegoat for the laziness in this city, state, and country.

One last thing....just because Our State "says" we need to "do" something as a city.....please know that we don't! Other cities that have great leadership don't allow this state to dictate what WE do as a city.
WE DO what is BEST FOR OUR CITIZENS.

Regards from a very concerned citizen of Carlsbad,

Sharyl

Sharyl Hess

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Hector Gomez

From: HOLLY HAMEL <hollyk8@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 5:27 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Carlsbad Voucher Program (please forward to City Council)

Dear City Council,

It's been brought to the community's attention that the council is circling back to the housing first voucher program. Our community made it very clear at the zoom and neighborhood meetings that we do not feel that the housing first voucher program is the way to go in Carlsbad. After our neighborhood met with Theresa Acosta, many of us had many questions that were never answered. Here are a few:

How will the pilot homeless voucher program hold participants accountable? The pilot program was initially presented as a Housing First program which by definition means that participants are not held accountable and do not have to be drug tested in order to stay in the program. Housing First means the participants can do as many drugs as they want while staying in a hotel for free. The community has been very vocal about wanting the participants to be held accountable. What is City Council changing about the program to ensure participants are getting the help they need and are drug free?

La Posada is a homeless shelter in Carlsbad that has been operating with success for many years. Their Mission statement is: To provide a safe, supportive, sober environment and opportunities for men with few or no resources to gather, begin, and continue self-help efforts. Why doesn't the City support and help La Posada to expand its services instead of installing a pilot hotel voucher program that the community does not want?

Where is the data that backs the claim that 70% of our homeless people previously resided in Carlsbad? This question has been asked several times but City Council has yet to explain how the data was collected and where the number came from. The community deserves to know how such a claim was generated.

Thank you for listening to the community,

Holly Hamel

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